

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 AID-20 PC-04 EUR-25

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R 281030Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7171

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2175

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SU

SUBJ: PURGE OF FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS

1. FOLLOWING UP REFERENCE IN NIMEIRI SEPT. 22 SPEECH THAT GOS AND SSU ORGANS WOULD BE PURGED OF "DISLOYALISTS", GOS ISSUED REPUBLICAN DECREE ANNOUNCED IN PRESS SEPT. 26 DISMISSING FIVE SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM FONOFF OSTENSIBLY FOR INCOMPETENCE. NO NAMES GIVEN.

2. EMB HAS ASCERTAINED THAT THE FIVE PURGED ARE DIRWEUROPE AND AMERICAN AFF ABU BAKR OSMAN, AMB TO ZAIRE SALAH ZARROUK, DIRCONSULAR AFF ISMAIL ABU BAKR AL-MALAIK, DEP UNDERSEC-DESIGNATE HAMID MOHAMMED EL-AMIN, AND DEPDIR SOCIALIST COUNTRY AFF ABU SINN. OF THE FIVE, MOST IMPORTANT FROM EMB VIEW IS ABU BAKR OSMAN WHO IS DISTINGUISHED PRO-WESTERN CAREER DIPLOMAT WHO PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLES IN RESTORING RELATIONS BETWEEN SUDAN AND FRG. HE HAS ALSO BEEN FRANK AND INTELLIGENT--IF OFTEN UNINFORMED--COLLEAGUE IN CHARGE US-SUDAN AFFAIRS. ABUT BAKR TOLD DCM PRIVATELY HE HAD BEEN ON PROMOTION LIST TO AMBSSADOR UNTIL EARLY THIS MONTH WHEN SOME OF HIS CRITICAL ANTI-GOS COMMENTS WERE CONVEYED TO SECURITY AUTHORITIES. HE HAD BEEN WARNED PREVIOUSLY, BUT THIS TIME HAD BEEN REMOVED
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FROM PROMOTION LIST AND CASHIERED. ABU BAKR ACTUALLY SOME-

WHAT RELIEVED AT OPPORTUNITY TO LEAVE GOS WITH PENSION INTACT.
HE HAS ALREADY ARRANGED OTHER EMPLOYMENT.

3. BACKGROUND OF OTHER PURGEES UNCLEAR, BUT AMB. TO ZAIRE

REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN SEEKING RETIREMENT FOR SOME TIME. HAMID
MOH. EL-AMIN WAS IN NEW POST WITH WHICH EMB HAD AS YET NO
CONTACT. ABU SINN IS YOUNG VERY MOD OFFICER WHO, WHEN ASKED
TO SPEAK FRANKLY AT SSU ORGANIZING SESSION IN FONOFF
REPORTEDLY DID SO AND IS NOW PAYING THE PRICE. EMB OFTEN
FOUND MALAIK A DIFFICULT PERSON.

4. PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT CLEANSING IN OTHER MINISTRIES WILL
BE COMPLETED BY END OCTOBER.

5. COMMENT: FONOFF PURGE MAKES IT APPEAR THAT PURGE OF SSU
AND GOS ORGANS WILL BE MIXTURE OF LOYALTY AND PERFORMANCE
INVESTIGATION BUT ALL WILL BE TARRED WITH INCOMPETENCE BRUSH
OR ALLEGATIONS RE PERSONAL HABITS. GOS PRE-AUGUST CALLS FOR

PLAN OF SELF-EXILED SUDANESE FROM 69 AND 71 ERAS (PARTICULARLY
ECONOMISTS WHTC HAVE TAKEN ON KEY POSITIONS IN KUWAIT, SAUDI
ARABIA AND GULF STATES) IS ALSO DEAD LETTER ONCE GRAPE-VINE
SPREADS WORLD THAT LOYALTY PURGE IS ON AGAIN. EMB PLACES NO
FOREIGN POLICY SIGNIFICANCE ON PURGES.

6. EPILOGUE: FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO CIRCULATED LETTER (ANNOUNCED
PUBLICLY) THAT FONOFF OFFICIALS WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR
"...PERSONAL BEHAVIOR AND HABITS INCLUDING EXCESSIVE DRINKING
AND GAMBLING".
BREWER

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